

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 087758
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S:PSEBASTIAN:GJK

APPROVED BY S/S:SEBASTIAN

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O 192007Z APR 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 087758

NODIS

WH FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 6321 ACTION SECSTATE 19 APR 77

QUOTE S E C R E T LONDON 06321

NODIS

FROM ASST SECY HARTMAN - DEPT FOR S, D, P AND EUR ONLY

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS BONN AND NSC

E. O. 11652:XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GB, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: FOUR-POWER DIRECTORS' MEETING, APRIL 19

REF: STATE 0856999

1. DECLARATION ON BERLIN. THE FOUR POLITICAL
DIRECTORS MET IN LONDON APRIL 19 TO DISCUSS THE CONTENT

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OF A POSSIBLE FOUR-POWER DECLARATION ON BERLIN (REFTEL).
THERE WAS CONSENSUS THAT THE STATEMENT SHOULD BE FIRM
IN DEFENSE OF WESTERN VIEWS ON THE CITY, YET NON-
POLEMICAL IN TONE, AND DESIGNED TO BE ENCOURAGING TO
THE WEST BERLINERS. THE DIRECTORS WORKED OUT A DRAFT
TEXT BASED ON US AND FRENCH DRAFTS. THE BRITISH
EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WILL DELIVER THE AGREED DRAFT

TEXT IN WASHINGTON, PARIS AND BONN ON APRIL 20 FOR
HIGH-LEVEL REVIEW.

2. ALLIED FLAG TOURS. THE DIRECTORS DISCUSSED THE
RECENT SOVIET DEMARCHES TO THE US AND FRANCE ON
ALLIED FLAG TOURS OF EAST BERLIN. THEY AGREED THAT
THE BONN GROUP SHOULD UNDERTAKE A DRAFTING EXERCISE
ON AN URGENT BASIS TO WORK OUT A DRAFT RESPONSE FOR
HIGH-LEVEL REVIEW IN CAPITALS. THEY FURTHER AGREED
THAT THE BONN GROUP EFFORT SHOULD BE AIMED AT
FINDING A COMMON GROUND SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE
DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED RESPONSE AND THE LINE PROPOSED
BY THE FRENCH, WHICH IS TO MAKE A SHORT SHARP
REJECTION OF THE SOVIET APPROACH. FURTHER, THERE
SHOULD BE IN THE DRAFT REPLY SOME QUESTIONING OF
SOVIET MOTIVES IN RAISING THIS SORT OF SENSITIVE
ISSUE AT THIS JUNCTURE IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS.
(FYI. HARTMAN INFORMED THE OTHER THREE DIRECTORS
OF THE CONTENTS OF THE RECENT SOVIET APPROACH TO
US AS WELL AS RECALLING HIS EARLIER ACCOUNT OF THE
JUNE 1976 APPROACH TO KISSINGER BY DOBRYNIN ON THE
SUBJECT OF THE TOURS. END FYI.)

3. SENIOR LEVEL MEETING. THE DIRECTORS APPROVED
THE PROPOSED BONN GROUP AGENDA FOR THE SENIOR LEVEL
MEETING ON MAY 7.

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UNQUOTE VANCE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BERLIN ACCESS, AGREEMENT DRAFT, CAT-A, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE087758
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PSEBASTIAN:GJK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770002-0672
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770441/aaaabjtz.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 75d9b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: 77 STATE 856999
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2761166
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOUR-POWER DIRECTORS' MEETING, APRIL 19
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GB, US, UK, FR
To: WHITE HOUSE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/75d9b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009